



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
UTAH FIELD OFFICE

PO Box 25007 Salt Lake City, UT 84125-0007 • (800)747-8522

Ag Statistics Hotline: (800) 727-9540 • www.nass.usda.gov



Contact: Richard A. Kestle
(800) 747-8522

Commercial Fruit Utilized Production

UTAH: Utah's 2005 apple, sweet cherries and tart cherries utilized production estimates were up from 2004, according to the Utah Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Estimates of utilized production for apricot, peaches, and pears were lower than 2004. Utilized production for 2005 was as follows: apples, 37.1 million pounds, 5.7 million pounds more than 2004; apricots, 245 tons, 45 tons less than 2004; sweet cherries, 1,750 tons, 150 tons more than 2004; tart cherries, 26.0 million pounds, 4 million pounds more than 2004; peaches, 4,420 tons, 130 tons less than 2004; and pears, 200 tons, 100 tons less than 2004. Value of production for Utah's 2005 fruit crop and change from 2005 were as follows: apples, \$10.4 million, up \$2.0 million; apricots, \$235,000 up \$58,000; sweet cherries, \$1.9 million up \$339,000; tart cherries, \$6.5 million; up \$1.7 million; peaches, \$3.4 million, up \$571,000; and pears, \$129,000, up \$11,000.

UNITED STATES: Utilized apple production for 2005 is estimated at 9.78 billion pounds, down 6 percent from the 2004 level. Utilized production for Washington and New York decrease 6 percent and 20 percent, respectively, while Michigan's utilized production increased 8 percent compared to the previous year. In New York, a spring frost during bloom, extreme heat during early summer, and heavy rains and winds during mid October reduced the 2005 crop. Below normal humidity levels in Michigan kept disease pressure low and the apple crop was ahead of normal development throughout the growing season. Utilized peach production in 2005 is estimated at 1.14 million tons, down 7 percent from the previous year and 5 percent below 2003. The California crop, accounting for 76 percent of the U.S. utilized peach production, is down 6 percent from 2004. For California, the Clingstone peach estimate is down 10 percent and the Freestone estimate is down 1 percent from 2004.

Utilized pear production for 2005 is 811,670 tons, down 7 percent from the previous year. Washington, the top producing State, utilized 400,000 tons, up 9 percent from 2004. California, the second largest producer at 200,000 tons, is down 26 percent from the previous season. Utilized pear production in Oregon, the third largest producing State, is 196,000 tons, down 7 percent from 2004.